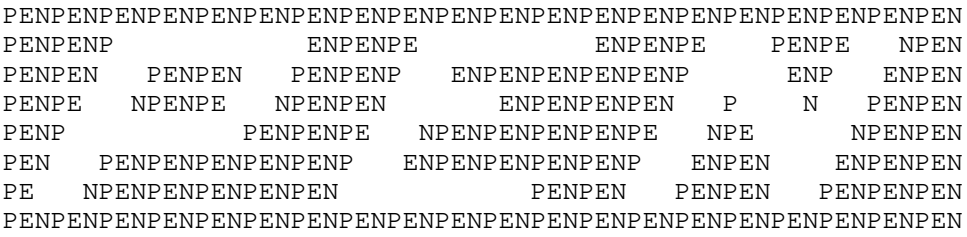

No. 53 May 1996 Oppenheimer Software

Interactive/ONR Edition
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This is the fifty-third edition of the Periodic Electronic Newsletter (PEN) for MCI Mail users assigned to Oppenheimer Software (MCI Mail agency NY4). You may respond to the PEN by typing ANSWER at the COMMAND; line that appears after you read this. This mailbox (218-0241) is toll free - you may write to it as often as you wish, at no charge! (Please note that you may order a toll-free mail box - contact Oppenheimer Software for more information.)

EDITORS NOTE 1 2

EDITORS NOTE 2 3

1-800-I-WANT-MCI 4

NEED ANOTHER MAILBOX? 5

LATE BREAKING NEWS ON FAX BROADCAST 6

SPRING AHEAD 7

MAILROOM WITH A VIEW 8

internetMCI - REDUCED PRICING & FREE SOFTWARE 10

E-MAIL SHOOTOUT 11

PEN NEWSLETTER ARCHIVES 12

dataTNG 13

POWERUSER 1 14

POWERUSER 2 15

TILL NEXT TIME 16

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EDITORS NOTE 1
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This PEN Newsletter had been scheduled for publication two weeks ago. However, we held release to include a special announcement about new discounts available on Fax Broadcast, and the announcement of dedicated internet services from our new division, dataTNG (see below).

We are sorry if this delay caused any inconvience.

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
EDITORS NOTE 2
>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

The PEN Newsletter is designed to be read or printed using a fixed font, such as Courier 10. If the masthead above appears skewed, the program you are using to read the PEN newsletter is using a proportional font.

To "straighten" out the PEN, you can switch to a fixed font.

If your e-mail program does not offer that capability, or if you are unsure of how to do it, you may:

1. Read it as it is

2. Save it to disk as an ASCII file, and use your word processing program to display it in a fixed font

3. Save it to disk and use the DOS "TYPE" command to read it {at the C; prompt, enter: TYPE filename | MORE}

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
1-800-I-WANT-MCI
>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

A toll free *FAX* number is available for anyone wanting to set up accounts on MCI Mail, MCI Connect, or anyone needing information about MCI Fax Broadcast, MCI Fax Reply, internetMCI or networkMCI:

1-800-I-WANT-MCI (1-212-787-2416 outside the USA)

The fax should include the name, address, phone and fax numbers of the requester. Typically, the MCI Mail or MCI Connect account will be activated the following business morning, and the Fax accounts, within 5 days. To help the new MCI Mail subscriber, a four page fax will be returned with the account information and basic starting instructions.

You can also use the NEWUSER script described below. However, this toll-free fax number can be used by anyone with access to a fax machine.

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
NEED ANOTHER MAILBOX?
>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

The NEWUSER script has been used by hundreds of people to set their friends, associates and clients up on MCI Mail, add new mailboxes to existing accounts, or to request information on behalf of a colleague.

If you have a friend across town, or in another country who wants to benefit from electronic mail or if you know of someone who tediously sends faxes out from a fax machine and is looking for a better way, or someone who sends letters and memos by overnight courier and would like to save some money, you can help them by introducing them to MCI Mail.

To use this feature, log into MCI Mail interactively (MCI Mail Express users press {CTRL}J after starting the program). At the Command; prompt, type:

CREATE USING NEWUSER {ENTER}

Answer all questions, and follow the instructions at the end of the SCRIPT. You will be notified when the new mailbox/account is active.

Note. . . If you access MCI Mail via MCI Mail Express, or a LAN gateway, you may send the name, address and phone and fax number of the referral to mailbox 218-0241, or you may fax this information to 212-787-2416. We will contact them immediately and arrange for the account or mailbox.

Additionally, the *FAX* number 1-800-I-WANT-MCI is available for anyone looking to request information or establish an account for themselves.

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
LATE BREAKING NEWS ON FAX BROADCAST
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If you ever need to send large number of faxes out (broadcast) or need a fax on demand service, you may be eligible for a special discount package now available for MCI Fax Broadcast and MCI Fax Reply. These Fax Broadcast rates are as low as $.17/minute (off peak) and $.19/minute (peak). Please send a toll free message to MCI ID:218-0241 for additional information .

>>>>>>>>>>>>
SPRING AHEAD
>>>>>>>>>>>>

If people are asking why you are working so late, it may be because your 4:30 PM MCI Mail message was time stamped 5:30

PM. No, there is nothing wrong with the clocks at MCI... rather, you need to adjust your time zone from Standard to Daylight time

If you use MCI Mail interactively, follow this dialogue (MCI Mail Express users type ^J first to log on interactively):

Command; ACCOUNT {ENTER}

Do you wish to see your current ACCOUNT settings? NO {ENTER}
ACCOUNT setting you wish to change: TIME {ENTER}
Please enter your time zone: EDT {ENTER}
^---(or your local time zone)
ACCOUNT setting you wish to change: {ENTER}
Are settings PERManent or TEMPorary: PERM {ENTER}
New ACCOUNT settings are now in effect.

Command;

If you are an MCI Mail Express user, don't forget to change your time zone there too. From the main screen, press {CTRL}X, and them select Time Zone.

It may also help to adjust the time in your computer. See your computer manuals for more information.

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
MAILROOM WITH A VIEW
>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

E. M. Forester wrote "Room with a View"... a love story that takes place in London, about a woman who needs to choose between a reliable but staid man, and a new and interesting one. In choosing the latter, she obviously risked losing the existing relationship.

You however, do not face such a dilemma. If you use programs such as MCI Express, Smartcom, or Windows Terminal in the Windows environment, you can now explore a newly improved MailRoom, without committing yourself to the new relationship.

If you have been using such Macintosh programs as Red Rider or Microphone, MailRoom for Macintosh is just the ticket.

Sierra Solutions' MailRoom (Windows and Mac) can now be tested for a 30 day period prior to purchase. After 30 days, MailRoom will not connect to MCI Mail (unless you complete your purchase of the package for $85).
MailRoom uses a series of windows to set up the program, create folders in which to store messages, view received messages, and a compose window with an editor to write messages. You can also import text for your messages from other word processing programs. MailRoom supports all of MCI message sending features such as receipt, alert, charge

code, and overnight/priority delivery. You can also send binary files as an enclosure.

MailRoom includes a number of interesting and worthwhile features:

A window that provides an accurate count of the number of characters in your message - a feature that can help to control your costs.

It supports high speed modems up to 19,200 baud, and can use modems that are attached to your PC, or part of a pool on a LAN. Global Access is supported.
It can track Daylight Savings/Standard time, and adjust the timestamps on your messages accordingly

It has an unusual "Readback" feature that allows it to capture a copy of a message that you have just sent, and store it in the SENT folder, along with the MCI Mail network date/time stamp. This can be used instead of CC:ing yourself when sending an important message.

Its "Answer with Original" feature allows you to respond to a message, and include a copy of the message that you are responding to... its big help when you need a "paper trail" for a message.

It can, through its special log-on session, download the contents of an MCI Mail bulletin board at computer speed, and therefore, lower your bulletin board costs.

You can set defaults for all of your messages, such as RECEIPT or specific handling prompts.... a very handy feature.

Messages that you have deleted are stored in the "DELETED" folder for a user selectable number of days before being deleted from the disk.
It supports multiple environments, allowing you to have one log-on sequence for use at the office, where you might need to dial out through a PBX, and another for use at home, where direct access to MCIs 800 numbers is available.

MailRoom features an Address Book for frequently-used addresses. Both instant (e-mail) addresses, EMS addresses, Fax, Telex and Paper addresses are supported. Addresses can be added manually or added automatically from received messages. Mailing lists can also be created, either from received messages or manually.

It has a robust help facility, along with a "To Customer Service" menu option to allow you to send messages to Sierra Solutions' Customer Service if you have questions about MailRoom. Responses are sent via MCI Mail (of course).

When MailRoom is operating, an icon appears that advises you of the status of your session. Although you can't program MailRoom to poll MCI Mail at regular intervals, you can set it up to poll at four specific times during the day.

If you currently use Lotus Express, MailRoom can convert the existing Lotus Express messages over to the MailRoom format.

A special feature of the latest version of MailRoom is that its the first program to properly support MIME files (binary files from the Internet).

MailRoom can be ordered by sending a toll free message to MCI ID:234-9875.

>>
internetMCI - REDUCED PRICING & FREE SOFTWARE
>>

internetMCI is MCI's Windows based, full featured access ramp to the Internet.

internetMCI requires a 386, 486 or Pentium PC with Windows 3.1 or later, a Hayes compatible modem (at least 9600 baud), 10 megabytes free space on your disk and at least 4 MB of RAM

Once installed in your PC, double clicking on the internetMCI launcher icon brings you to MCIs home page - your gateway to cyberspace.

From the home page, MCI offers you a number of paths including "Whats New", "Directories", "marketplace MCI", "Newsgroups" and an "infodesk".
MCI recently reduced the price for unlimited Internet access - to $19.95 per month. This access includes World Wide Web, Telnet, FTP, etc. Additionally, the Netscape software is now provided for free.

To subscribe to internetMCI, please sent a request to MCI ID:234-9875, including your name, address, telephone number and your credit card number and expiration date.

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
E-MAIL SHOOTOUT
>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

Recently, PC World compared several major e-mail carriers and the Internet.

The PC World editorial staff spent a week mailing messages to and from various e-mail services, and measuring the time it took to arrive at its destination. Here's how the services fared:

Service	Time to arrive average	Time to arrive worst	% Delivered in under 20 min/ over one hour
MCI Mail	0:02:00	0:06:00	100/00
The Microsoft Ntwrk	0:11:00	0:11:00	100/00
Internet SLIP/PPP	0:01:00	0:52:00	100/00
America Online	0:15:00	3:20:00	93/70
Prodigy	0:35:00	3:54:00	68/40
CompuServe	0:42:00	7:18:00	67/33

(Reprinted with permission, PC World, Feb. 1996)

Although a direct Internet link was marginally faster on the average than MCI Mail (one minute vs. two minutes), its worst case delivery time was almost 9 times longer (52 minutes vs. 6 minutes).
Indeed, a quick review of the results show that overall, MCI Mail offered the best chance of your e-mail getting through in the shortest possible period of time.

According to PC World, "...its e-mail only focus and national access have long made it a favorite of business users".

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
PEN NEWSLETTER ARCHIVES
>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

The PEN Newsletter, published continually since 1987 (possibly the first electronically distributed newsletter anywhere - we're still checking into that), contains a wealth of information about MCI Mail, MCIs faxing services, software for accessing MCI Mail, LAN access to MCI Mail, and a host of other topics.

Starting on June 15, the PEN Newsletter Archives, containing issues number 8 through 53, representing over 1 megabyte of information will be available on the World Wide Web.

Much of the material in the older PEN newsletters is obviously dated, yet it makes for some interested reading - a look at e-mail in its infancy. You can, for example, read about accessing MCI Mail from a dual floppy 8088 PC with a monochrome screen and a 300 baud modem!

Additionally, references to prices and product/service availability may have changed since the publication date, so please check with us before making decisions based on the older editions.

The PEN Newsletter Archives can be accessed from:

http://www.oppenheimer-software.com

As this WWW site is still under development, please check back on it from time to time as new content is added.

Access to WWW is only available from an Internet account

such as internetMCI - it is not accessible from MCI Mail. If you are interested in "surfing" the Net, internetMCI's $19.95 "all you can eat" plan is just the ticket... send a message to MCI ID:218-0241 to subscribe.

If you do not have access to the WWW, the table of contents, and individual copies of the PEN Newsletter remain available on request by sending a message to MCI ID:218-0241.

>>>>>>>
dataTNG
>>>>>>>

Although you may have thought of MCI as only a long distance telephone, e-mail or faxing company, it actually offers a ever widening range of products and services.

To Help manage the sales and support of some of these services, dataTNG, a new division of Oppenheimer Software, now sells a variety of data services including:

Dedicated Private Lines
International Private Lines
Domestic and International Digital Data Services
ranging from 56K to DS3 (45 mbps)
Switched Services
ranging from 56K to T3 (45 mbps)
Virtual Private Network Services
Packet Services
Frame Relay
Switched Megabit Data Services
Dedicated Internet Access
("on-ramp" to the Internet)
Future issues of the PEN Newsletter will explore these services and their applications.

Additional information about any of these data services is available by sending an e-mail to MCI ID:218-0241.

>>>>>>>>>>
POWERUSER 1
>>>>>>>>>>

Are you stuck on an Internet list that has outlived its usefulness to you?

You can remove yourself from the list by sending a message to the listserver for that list (NOT THE LIST itself, unless you want to be flamed alive) and make the text of the message:

UNSUBSCRIBE {list name}

For example, if you are on the FlatWorldSociety list and have decided its really round, then send a message to:

Listserv@xxxxx.yyy.edu
^-{using the correct address of course)

The text would read:
UNSUBSCRIBE FlatWorldSociety

>>>>>>>>>>>
POWERUSER 2
>>>>>>>>>>>

Just in case you missed it, MailRoom (see above) is the first program to properly support MIME. This means that you can not only send binary files to the Internet, but you can also receive binary files from the Internet.

We feel that this special feature is important enough to warrant this special notice in the Poweruser section.

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
TILL NEXT TIME
>>>>>>>>>>>>>>

Gary.......
MCI Mail Agency NY4
MCI ID# 218-0241
Internet: 218-0241@MCIMAIL.COM
X.400: C=US;A=MCI;D=ID=218-0241
Fax: 212-787-2416
Tel No. 212-724-9785
Customer Support:301-371-7460
New Account Fax Number: 800-I-WANT-MCI

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